

STOP THE INVASION- REPORT THIS PEST

Little Red Fire Ant

Maui County Priority Pest for Maui, Lanai, and Molokai:

Little red fire ant (*Wasmannia auropunctata*) is currently only known to be on the Big Island. This ant is not aggressive and moves very slowly, but will sting when trapped under clothing or in hair. Little fire ant does not build mounded dirt nests, and nests in a variety of habitats.

Identification

Length- 1.6 mm (1/16 in)

Color- Orange or Red

Head size is the same proportion to the body size, with no "big-headed" workers

Sting produces large welts that last for days



These ants are really tiny



Little fire ant



Closeup of a worker

Don't mistake Little Red Fire Ant for these look-alikes:



Tropical fire ant (*Solenopsis geminata*):

The tropical fire ant is common throughout Hawaii. A microscope is required to tell the difference between the tropical and other fire ants. This small red ant is 3-6 mm (1/8-1/4 in) long, much larger than the little fire ant. Some of the workers will have proportionately large heads. This ant is restricted to dry coastal areas and nests in the soil, it does not construct mounds. Tropical fire ant stings will cause irritation, but should not cause white pus filled blisters that persist for days.



Tetramorium ant (*Tetramorium simillimum*):

The tetramorium ant is a small red ant of similar size and shape to the little fire ant, but moves about with much greater speed.

Report online: www.reportapest.org
Call in a report
Maui/Lanai: 573-6471 Molokai: 553-5236

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